

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 02398 231905Z

51

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01

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R 231722Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 566

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 2398

FOR LAIRD ALLHOUSE, US CUSTOMS SERVICE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, BE

SUBJECT: CCINC CUSTOMS TRAINING

REF: BRUSSELS 2336

1. IN COORDINATION WITH BELGIAN CUSTOMS, WE HAVE ARRANGED FOR TWO FLEMISH SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETERS FOR THE DURATION OF THE MAY 13-24 COURSE. INTERPRETING FIRM (JEAN-PIERRE VAN HEE) WILL SEND CONTRACT TO EMBASSY TO AWAIT PERUSAL AND APPROVAL BY THE TRAINING TEAM UPON ARRIVAL THE WEEK OF MAY6. THIS FIRM HAS BEEN FOUND SATISFACTORY IN THE PAST BY DEA. THE COST, WHICH IS STANDARD IN BRUSSELS, IS 5,400 BF PER DAY PER INTERPRETER. (AT 40BF OT DOLS 1.00, THIS COMES TO DOLS 270 A DAY FOR TWO INTERPRETERS.

2. WE NOTE THAT THURSDAY, MAY 23 IS AN OFFICIAL BELGIAN HOLIDAY (ASCENSION DAY), AND THAT NONE OF THE BELGIANS INVOLVED (STUDENTS,BELGIAN CUSTOMS OFFICIALS, AND INTERPRETERS) CAN BE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COURSE THAT DAY. MANY BELGIANS CUSTOMARILY TAKE OFF FRIDAY AS WELL SO AS TO CONSTRUCT A LONG WEEKEND, MAKING IT LIKELY THAT THE MAY 24 SESSION WILL BE SPARSELY ATTENDED.

3. BELGIAN CUSTOMS ASKS WHETHER IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO
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CONDUCT THE COURSE IN EIGHT RATHER THAN TEN DAYS, THEREBY

CONCLUDING WITH THE SESSION OF WEDNESDAY, MAY 22.
PLEASE ADVISE.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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